

The male section of our team must have already got some oxygen for us. Yrus, they were in a sort of quandary this time.

This is an international holiday, a fact particularly felt at the world championship. On this day, we competitors, try to have extra attention to one another. In fact, the holiday brings us, liguro skaters, from various countries far from home, close together in a curious way. Sport means compellition — but also the friendship of young people whose strength determines not just the future of the Olympic movement.

We will be presented with flowers and smiles and high spirits—which will hopefully last forever.

The third match is due to take place on March 8.

The first ever women's world pentathlon championship will be held next year at Chamonix, France, such is the decision at a recent congress of the International Modern Pentathlon and Biathlon Union.

Twelve countries have volunteered to take part, including the USSR, the GDR, Norway, Sweden, Italy, the USA, Canada and China and will compete in the 7.5 km and 10 km races and the 1:5 relay.



Yugoslav Cibona from Zagreb lost to the Central Army Club, 78-95, in a European Winners Cup game in Moscow.

Photo by Andrej Golovanov

DEAR READERS,

"Mikrosmallinn" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers to brief the latest information on events in the USSR and to the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies. Nothing short of the materials carried in the editions of both

The first three games in the match between Soviet Grandmasters Aleksandar Belyavsky and Garry Kasparov confirmed the nearly unanimous forecast of the numerous experts that it would be the most exciting of all the world chess challenger quarterfinals.

The first game, closely contested, was drawn, and Kasparov, who played Black, won the second. In the third game, Belyavsky profited from the experience of the startling-odd game, and the game was quickly drawn. It is pretty obvious that the impulsive Kasparov is eager to attack while the outwardly composed Belyavsky [which is

Klav Dynamo did poorly in their European Winners' Cup first quarterfinal leg, going down in Tbilisi, 3-0, to Hammarby, who lead in the West German championship and whose forward Bostrup made a hat-trick.

England, which held the European Winners Cup for two years running, slipped this time as defending champions at Villa last, 2-1, at home to the Italian Juventus, which has six world titles to its credit. 1982 European player Paolo Bettini netted the game's opener. Thracia cup winners Lierse were outplayed by WZ 0-1 in Lodz, Poland.

In Lishon Iarni Sporting tied the winning and only lost versus Spanish Real Sociedad in the last minute.

In the Cup Winners Cup, Vienna Austria drew 0-0 with Spanish Barcelona at home and West German Bayern at home. Scotch Aberdeen played a goalless draw.

In Milan Inter drew 1-1 with Middlesbrough.

French St. Germain defeated visiting Waterschei of Belgium 2-0.

In the UEFA Cup most interest centered on the Roma vs Portuguese league, leaders in their respective championships. The two teams played a combination game in London, 2-1.

The second-leg games are on March 16.

In our time women are rapidly catching up with the "stronger sex" in sport. This has been proved, yet once again, by Ana Maraz, 27, the Yugoslav mountaineer, who has been included in a 15-strong team which will try to scale the 8,000 metre Masher Peak.

It is a pity that I won't be his high on March 8, only a bit older, but such is the team's schedule, Mazar joked.

If sportswomen show great bravery in scaling peaks, they also know how to create an intimate atmosphere when playing chess, for example. It was exactly in these words that the participants of the 1982 chess Olympiad in Lucerne, Switzer-

dikar sisters—Rahnika, Yashra and Vasanati—who represented India at the event. The sisters were good natured not only towards each other but also towards their opponents, though this did not prevent them from playing a tough game. Their team placed 8th-9th.

It is hard to find a family success in the world of chess to equal that of the three Khadijkar sisters.

Finally, our women bring glory to towns which are not known for woman's sports. Take Anversa, in Italy, for instance. A biathlon Mecca, where many European and world championships have been held. The most distinguished sportswoman in the town, however, is cyclist Maria Canins-Bonoldi, the

Applications from 15 nations have already been received by the organizers of the 30th Peace Race—from, Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary, Holland, the GDR, Egypt, Mongolia, Portugal, Poland, Romania, the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, and the USA, which will make its debut.

This time the race will go from Warsaw to Berlin and on to Prague. It will set out on May 8 from the Polish capital

It is only the growing military threat emanating from reactionary imperialist circles that forces us to strengthen the defense of the USSR. This country has saved the USSR. Minister of Defense, Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, was speaking at a ceremony in Murnansk in which the city was awarded the Order of Great Patriotic War First Class. The award was made in recognition of the courage and selflessness displayed by the working people of Murnansk in the struggle against the naz invaders during the Great Patriotic War and also in recognition of their achievements in economic and cultural construction.

Dohli. The Vaidyan Bhavan (Palace of Science), the largest hall in the Indian capital, was recently the scene of the 7th Conference of Heads of States and Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, which was attended by nearly a hundred nations. The conference, which lasted for 5 days, discussed pressing and important issues as curbing the arms race, and primarily, nuclear arms disarmament; the strengthening of peace and international security; the elimination of the last remnants of colonialism and racism; and the revision of current international economic relations on a fair and equitable basis.

It has become clear that the members of the movement,

According to a communication issued by the USSR State Security Committee and distributed by TASS, Richard Osborne, first secretary of the US Embassy, was caught red-handed in Moscow on March 7, this year, while working with espionage.

On March 10, this couple docked the Kosmos-1443 satellite with the orbital Salyut-7 station, which created an orbiting complex of Salyut-7 — Kosmos-1443 in the space around the Earth.

At its regular weekly meeting the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee discussed agricultural matters, and specifically the introduction of a more progressive and effective working technique known as the "collective contract". It also heard reports on preparations for spring planting.

The Politburo reviewed the results of the recent visit made to the Soviet Union by Samora Machel, Chairman of the FRELIMO Party, President of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and emphasized the great importance of the continued development of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in the name of the peace and security of peoples and in the face of the growing aggressive stance adopted by the forces of imperialism and reaction, colonialism and neo-colonialism, racial oppression and domination. Chief of the Polish Foreign Ministry, Nikolai Tikhonov and Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrei Gromyko repeated on their talks with the Polish Foreign Minister Sielan Olazowski, and reports were also heard on other Soviet foreign policy matters.

The freezing of nuclear weapons will result in considerable saving for the states of all socio-political systems. It will facilitate the implementation of specific steps towards disarmament, and create the requisite conditions for a change for the better in relations between states.

This reads part of the final communiqué issued of a meeting between religious leaders which ended in Moscow recently.

Taking part in the sessions and discussions which were devoted to debating the economic and moral consequences of a freeze on nuclear weapons were 42 religious leaders and experts on the economic, social and moral aspects of nuclear disarmament from 19 countries.

The delegates who represented Buddhism, Islam, Judaism and Christianity also approved an appeal addressed to broad sections of the world public stressing the great importance of a freeze on nuclear armaments as a major contribution towards the improvement of the international climate.

The order of the "Big Star of Friendship Among Peoples" had been awarded to Pimen, Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus'ia, in recognition of his active participation in the movement for peace and disarmament. This was noted in a speech made by Gerald Gottfay, Vice-Chairman of the GDR Council of State, Chairman of the Christian Democratic Union of Germany, who presented the order to Patriarch Pimen at a ceremony in the GDR Embassy.

'Gold' debut for Leningraders



World pair champions Yelena Voronova and Oleg Yastlyev going through their paces. Photo UPI-TASS

Yelena Velova, 20, and Oleg Vasilev, 23, Soviet debutants of the Helsinki world figure-skating championship, won the pairs with a brilliant free programme which enchanted judges and viewers alike, regarding the title for the Soviet Union.

"It was fantastic! Superb! Harmony, grace and beauty! It was in this way that specialists

(Continued on page 8)



A view of the horse-drawn chariot on top of the Bolshoi Theatre with the Mary Theatre and the Metropol Hotel in the background.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Address: 16/2 Gorky St. Moscow
Printed at the "Izvestia"
Press Moscow USSR
Published Tuesday and Saturday
Index 50075

MM INFORMATION No. 19-154

POLAND
REJECTS INTERFERENCE

Warsaw. The Polish Parliament's Commission on Foreign Affairs has rejected attempts by the American administration and its NATO partners to interfere in the domestic affairs of the country.

According to the PAP news agency, the meeting of the commission which examined the country's foreign policy goals, was addressed by Deputy Foreign Minister J. Wleciński who noted that the Western powers, particularly the United States, ran up international ten-

sion, and carry out aggressive policies against the countries of the socialist community, including Poland.

Concern was expressed at the meeting over the growing revisionist sentiment in West Germany, as reflected in the speeches made by the West German Minister of the Interior, Friedrich Zimmermann. J. Wleciński stressed that Poland will consistently oppose revisionist sentiment and will attempt to disrupt political coalitions in Europe at the same time as continuing its support for détente.

THE DELHI FORUM

(Continued from page 1)

emphasize in international credit and financial organizations.

The conference's final documents reflect the need for the

non-alignment movement to play a greater role in the campaign for peace and the prevention of nuclear war, for socio-economic progress, etc.

RACIALISM INHERENT
IN USA POLICIES

New York. The public American organization, the National Alliance Against Racism and Political Repression, has declared a nationwide campaign against political persecution in the United States in defence of human rights.

The Alliance has issued an appeal in which it says that racism and political reprisals have become an inalienable part of the anti-popular policy pursued by the American administration.

Throughout the nation, the Ku-Klux-Klan and pro-fascist groupings inspired by Reagan's onslaught on human rights are stepping up their unbridled campaign of violence.

It is noted in the appeal that the Reagan administration con-

tinues its offensive against the workers' rights to set up labour unions, go on strike, or to engage in collective bargaining. Attempts are being made to pass legislation which would strip foreign workers of the status of second-class citizens. Efforts to look for sources of livelihood, many such workers enter the United States illegally, living there without any papers. Such attempts represent part of the overall persecution of workers who belong to national minorities. It is said in the appeal.

The racial and political repression unleashed in the United States indicates the need for a broad and decisive counter-offensive to defend the human rights of the American people.

VIEWPOINT

Boris SMIRNOV

DELHI FORUM: PEACE
AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC
PROGRESS ARE INSEPARABLE

The current dangerous world situation brought about by the aggressive policy of the imperialist states led by America has a direct bearing on the interests of the non-aligned nations. Indira Gandhi noted at the opening of the 7th Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries that "non-alignment is not neutral, it stands for national independence and freedom, for peace and avoidance of confrontation, for equality among nations and the democratization of international relations, economic and political. It wants global cooperation for development on the basis of mutual benefit". She justly concluded that "development, independence, disarmament and peace are closely related, without peace all our dreams of development turn to ashes".

Many delegates to the conference talked of the continuing deterioration in the economic outlook of the developing countries. Their general debt, which stood at 87,000 million dollars in the early 70s, topped 600,000 million last year. Annually they have to pay with 100,000 mil-

lion in interest payments to the West. The trade terms laid down by their "Western partners" and the discriminatory protectionist barriers have resulted in the developing nations having accumulated another 100,000 million dollars in payment deficits. The non-aligned states are obviously disappointed that their hopes for the establishment of fair economic relations in the world after the Cancun, Ottawa and Versailles conferences were dashed by the negative attitude of the Western industrialized nations. The imperialist states, chiefly America, are working hard to perpetuate the economic backwardness of the developing nations. Washington movement to turn into a decade tool for the protection of American "global vital interests".

This was stressed with a case study on the economic situation of the developing nations, which is a legacy of their colonial past. They have never exploited any countries. They are no part to the economic crisis, currency crises and other repercussions typical of the hierarchy of production in the capitalist system which have such a grave impact on the de-

veloping nations. This general non-differentiating approach obscures the continuing neo-colonialist exploitation of developing countries at the hands of the capitalist nations and of their transnational corporations and blurs the crucial feature distinguishing the foreign economic links of the socialist countries with developing states, i.e., their fair and mutually profitable nature.

At the same time, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries are prepared to make a constructive contribution towards the creation of a new international economic order on a democratic and fair basis. This contribution will include apparatus aimed at creating favourable political conditions for reaching these goals as well as help in speeding up the development of young independent states via economic, scientific and technological cooperation with those of the latter countries who are desirous of such aid.

As regards the creation of favourable political conditions, Soviet actions fully conform to Indira Gandhi's appeal that "the nuclear powers do not use nuclear weapons under any circumstances and do not resort to a threat of using nuclear weapons as a means of reaching agreement in this field". This was specifically stressed in the Soviet congratulatory message in Paris in seeking the implementation of their legitimate aspirations. The non-aligned nations can always bank on the goodwill and cooperation of the Soviet Union.

of a similar will in our partners and the stubborn unwillingness on the Western side to look for mutually acceptable solutions. This is also characteristic of the widely publicized American "zero option" which, it would seem, was just put forward because we cannot and will never accept it in so far as it amounts to an option directed against the Soviet Union.

One gets the impression, Dmitry Ustinov went on, that in drawing out the talks, Washington is bent on making time until the end of the year so that it can start to deploy its medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. Should this happen, the Soviet Union will be up to trying a timely and effective response. Let this have any doubt on your mind. We have good reasons to defend our own interests, and we are strong enough to do so. We will persevere in our efforts to achieve the best of freedom, to ensure the peaceful coexistence of nations. Today, this is the only issue. And one to which the modern world badly needs a positive solution.

GOVERNORS
CRITICIZE
THE WHITE HOUSE

Washington. According to the US press, the Washington conference of the National Association of US governors has given the White House a vote of no-confidence.

The governors' main demand was for a sharp cutback in military spending which will amount to 1,000,000 million dollars over the next five years. They also condemned the "tax federalism" programme. Washington hopes this programme will relieve it of any responsibility for solving critical domestic socio-economic problems by passing the buck to the local organs while, at the same time, drastically reducing the amount of federal aid to states.

Describing the resolution passed at the conference as exceptionally important, the AP stresses that the governors have never been so outspoken on matters of the federal budget before or more critical of an administration's military expenditure policy.

FACTS
and EVENTS

○ Papers released by the UN Human Rights Committee provide irrefutable evidence that the political murder and sophisticated torture continue in Chile. Over nine months of UN alone more than 24 thousand people were detained in mass round-ups.

○ More than a million women have signed a petition demanding an end to the dangerous plans to deploy new American medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. The petition was headed in Bonn.

○ According to official statistics, women's pay in Britain is 35 per cent lower than men's. It is 30 per cent lower in France and 20-30 per cent in Australia.

○ Young people under thirty make up nearly 65 per cent of the unemployed in Greece.

Dmitry USTINOV:
'We are strong
enough to defend
our own interests'

(Continued from page 1)

of a similar will in our partners and the stubborn unwillingness on the Western side to look for mutually acceptable solutions. This is also characteristic of the widely publicized American "zero option" which, it would seem, was just put forward because we cannot and will never accept it in so far as it amounts to an option directed against the Soviet Union.

One gets the impression, Dmitry Ustinov went on, that in drawing out the talks, Washington is bent on making time until the end of the year so that it can start to deploy its medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. Should this happen, the Soviet Union will be up to trying a timely and effective response. Let this have any doubt on your mind. We have good reasons to defend our own interests, and we are strong enough to do so. We will persevere in our efforts to achieve the best of freedom, to ensure the peaceful coexistence of nations. Today, this is the only issue. And one to which the modern world badly needs a positive solution.

FACTS
and EVENTS

○ According to the West German DDP agency, reporting from Buenos Aires, next war criminal Walter Kutschmann, alias Pedro Olmo, was seen at Miramar, Argentina. He is responsible for the death of over 2,500 Polish citizens during World War II.

○ South Africa is planning to buy a military satellite system from the USA. France-Press agency reports from Johannesburg.

PEOPLE

The investigations which continue in Egypt into the illegal deals of Ismail Sedat, a brother of the former Egyptian president, have resulted in new scandalous revelations.

Egyptian judicial authorities have demanded a maximum punishment for three government ministers accused of involvement in a huge corruption network headed by Ismail Sedat.

According to Reuters, the three government members concerned were supply minister Ahmed Nouh, industry minister Fawzi Zaghala and communications minister Soliman Helwail Soliman.

Mr Nouh was accused of conspiring with Ismail's eldest son, Ismail, to import contraband steel at a time when Egypt had a shortage of good steel to spare.

The court said that Nouh and Ismail had attempted to import a two-million-pound (2.4-million-dollar) shipment of Ismail's steel of which about a quarter had been pilfered and about one-third was lost.

The Ismail family was awarded the Sedat family a 7.5 million-pound (nine-million-dollar) contract to supply chickens, none of which ever arrived.

The court said Mr Soliman provided the Sedat family with so many telephone lines and radio links that the family communication channels were only half as extensive as those enjoyed by the entire government.

Mr Zaghala was accused of diverting large amounts of iron and steel to Ismail's family enterprises when he was chairman of the State Steel Corporation. Last month the court sentenced 58-year-old Ismail Sedat and three of his sons to a year's detention for frauds alleged to have netted 125 million Egyptian pounds (150 million US dollars). In a 161-page statement explaining his verdict the court described Ismail and his sons as "a mafia gang which spread everywhere".

Tories to sell
off British steel

London. The Thatcher Conservative government in Britain intends to continue its policy of selling off the nationalized industries to private manufacturers.

Addressing the owners of steel companies, the Minister of State, Department of Industry, Norman Lamont noted that the Tory Cabinet intends to go ahead with its plans to denationalize the British Steel Corporation, the largest state-owned metallurgical enterprise in the country.

He said that at present intensive negotiations were under way to be completed by the signing of an agreement to hand over the corporation into private ownership. This step will result in the loss of more than ten thousand jobs.

The decision to auction off the massive undertaking being mounted by the Tories against the nationalized sector of the British economy.



The USA is trying to gain a firmer foothold in Lebanon. The "al-Hadath" weekly underscores the close relationship between the Israeli armed forces and the arrival of American troops in Lebanon. Press reports indicate that at present US Marines are in control of the strategically important Beirut International Airport and of the highway leading to the south of the country.

Photo AP-TASS

AMERICA 'EXPORTS' DICTATORS'

New York. Since World War II the United States has exported a whole generation of dictators from a US Army command and staff college at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, writes the "Progressive" magazine in a recent issue. This would seem to fit the "progressive" democracy and public diplomacy declared by the Reagan

administration. The US Secretary of State George Shultz admitted recently that the programme provides for "training leaders" for foreign states, which in effect, amounts to modelling military and political leaders of significance from countries which are in Washington's interest.

Science
and technologyANCIENT SITE
MIGHT BE FLOODED

Australian scientists have sharply reacted to a government decision to build a major hydroelectric station on the island of Tasmania. The river valley where the construction is planned is under special guardianship of archaeologists, who, a few years ago, discovered ruins of settlements dating back to the Stone Age there. Now this valuable archaeological site is threatened with flooding.

Twenty-four leading Australian archaeologists have appealed to the prime minister to preserve the site by moving the dam to another spot. The Australian press believes that there is practically no chance that their request will be granted.

ROMAN MINT IN BULGARIA

Workers digging the ground for the foundations of a new hotel in the Bulgarian capital of Sofia have unearthed unusual structures. The archaeologists who arrived on the site have established that in the 3rd and 4th centuries A.D. this was the site of a citadel from which a

vigilant appointed by the Roman emperors governed the surrounding area. Another discovery at the site is a mud where Roman coins were struck. The archaeologists have found tools, bellows and charcoal used by ancient mint workers, as well as a number of coins.

H CLOUD BIGGER
THAN GALAXY

American scientists have discovered a huge cloud of hydrogen in intergalactic space. This cloud, which is 30 million light years from the Earth, lies in the direction of the constellation Leo.

Its mass is about a thousand million times that of the Sun, and it stretches for nearly 300,000 light years, which means it is several times the size of our galaxy.

American astronomers believe that study of this unique space cloud can throw more light on the theory of the Big Bang which some scientists believe resulted in the appearance of the Universe.

OF INTEREST

Hang-gliders
for variety

Wishing to offset on many holiday-makers as possible, the owners of resorts in the Swiss Alps are bent on making their introduction of various novelties. To those who are tired of cable cars, helicopters, noise-driven sledges and other conventional vehicles, they offer a new means of conveyance — hang-gliders. The "glider" which is operated by an

Alcoholics
involuntary

On a routine examination of his cows one fine day the English farmer Albert Friday suddenly became aware of a strong smell of alcohol. The vet who was urgently called found that the farmer's cows had been drinking alcohol. The alcohol in their systems was taken place in the animals' stomachs during production of milk. The farmer was so shocked that he decided to stop his cows from drinking alcohol. The cows only began to produce milk after a break of three

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

LIES ENTER SECOND EDITION

Commenting on the publication by the Pentagon of the second edition of its propaganda pamphlet, "The Soviet Military Power", KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says:

Like its predecessor, this new edition of the Pentagon pamphlet contains a lot of false information. It indulges in shameless manipulation of the facts and in groundless assertions about America's alleged military backwardness.

The authors say, for example, that at the moment the US Air Force only has 241 B-52 bombers. However, an appendix to the SALT-2 Treaty signed by former President Carter, puts the number of these bombers at 574. It is also well known that since then the United States has not gone in for discarding these planes on a massive scale.

Facts are similarly distorted in the Pentagon evaluation of the number of warheads mounted on Soviet missiles.

The publication of the pamphlet shows yet again that while in Washington now there is little concern over equilibrium in equal security for the two sides, there is great anxiety over how to justify the deployment of new American mass destruction weapons, achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union.

GROUNDLESS INVENTION

TASS analyst Vladimir Serev writes: There has been speculation in the political circles of NATO countries on the theme that the victory of the CDU/CSU bloc in the parliamentary elections in the FRG will, allegedly, compel the Soviet Union to make concessions at the Geneva talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe.

Such speculations are absolutely groundless, stresses V. Serev. The Soviet Union is prepared for a just mutually acceptable solution for the question of the reduction of medium-range nuclear armaments (taking into consideration of course the armaments of Britain and France). But the Soviet Union will not agree to discuss multilaterally on the basis of Reagan's pseudo-zero option.

The hopes that NATO can start deploying new US medium-range missiles in Western Europe and that the Geneva talks will continue as if nothing happened are also illusory. This amounts to premeditated deception of the public, an attempt to mislead people. The appearance of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe would mean the start of a new arms race.

STAKING ON A LOSING CARD

Commenting on the White House intention to give an extra 60,000,000 dollars in aid to the reactionary regime in El Salvador, PRAVDA points out that one gets the impression that the American plans to intensify interference into the affairs of that country is but one aspect of the "overall revision" of American policy in Central America ordered by President Reagan.

Washington is waking up to the fact that its policy is leading into a dead end in Central America. But to get out of the impasse it continues to resort to the same old power politics in its reluctance to consider the will of the peoples living in the area and in its desire to interfere in their internal affairs.

USA: RESISTANCE TO 'CALIFORNIANS'

America's "Eastern establishment", which ceded power of the 1980 presidential elections, patiently waits to get its own back, stresses A. Kokoshin, in the SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper.

This monopoly grouping is against the current mammoth redistribution of tax revenues via the military budget in favour of Texas, California, the "deep" South and other regions in preparing its revenge, it relies chiefly on Democratic politicians. One gets the impression though that this party is for interior organizational life in the Republics. It has no clear leader on foreign, military and economic policy. Kokoshin points out. Still one can expect growing resistance to the domestic and foreign policy of the Reagan administration from many political quarters and from the broad mass of the public who are fed up with Reaganomics, Kokoshin points out.

MONTMARTRE TO UNDERGO

'TREATMENT'

Montmartre, Parisian famous bohemian quarter, is to undergo a "treatment course".

The houses of Montmartre stand on hills under which runs a whole network of stone quarries. Even in the mid-19th century many people lost their lives by falling down unexpected pits. The present-day attempts were made to reinforce the hills. The present-day towers of Montmartre, which is a quarter boasting many historically important buildings, have come across a plan of the left-out of the course, compiled in 1959. To preserve the buildings from destruction if it is proposed to pump, under pressure, cement solution into the old galleries and tunnels.

Round the Soviet Union

● ASSEMBLY WORK HAS BEGUN ON A BOILER AND TECHNOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRST POWER UNIT AT THE NERYUNORI HEAT AND POWER PLANT IN YAKUTIA, IN EASTERN SIBERIA. The plant will start providing power for projects in the taiga Yakut industrial production complex by the end of the year.

● TO DATE THE TYUMEN GAS FIELDS IN WESTERN SIBERIA HAVE YIELDED 1,000,000 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF GAS. The Medvezhya field alone produced nearly 500,000 million cu m.

● SKELETONS OF MAMMOTHS, WHICH ONCE ROAMED PRESENT-DAY NORTHERN KAZAKHSTAN IN THE ICE AGE, HAVE BEEN UNCOVERED IN A SAND QUARRY.

● KIROVIZ FORESTRY EXPERTS HAVE BEGUN LAYING OUT PISTACHIO PLANTATIONS ON THE MOUNTAINOUS TERRACES OF THE FERGHANA RANGE. It is planned to add 500 hectares to the area of pistachio forest there. There are over 130 species of different plants in the mountains of this Central Asian republic. This year there are plans to harvest up to 1,000,000 kg of pistachio, 3,000,000 kg of cherry plums and apples as well as large amounts of barberries, etc.

● THE ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST FURNACE HAS BEGUN AT THE OSKOL ELECTRIC METALLURGICAL COMBINE IN THE BELGOROD REGION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION. When the first section of the electric steel shop at Oskol is completed this December the combine will produce 725,000 tonnes of semi-finished steel annually, which is widely used in the manufacture of bearings, piping and power equipment.

● A READER OF THE HISTORY OF THE FAR EAST, THE FIRST EDITION OF ITS KIND TO HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN THIS COUNTRY, DEALS WITH THE FOUR-CENTURY-OLD HISTORY OF RUSSIA'S EASTERN PROVINCES. Spanning the period from 17th century to this day it tells of the life and work of the Russian pioneers Yermak, Khabarov, Samoylov, Vilyuy, Afanasyev, Vilyuy and Stepan Krasnolukov.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

SOCIAL POLICY IN ACTION

During the 9th and 10th five-year plan periods (1971-75, 1976-80) this country implemented the largest programme for raising the living standards of its people since the Revolution. Almost twice as much money as in the previous decade was spent on this purpose. The minimal wages, wage rates and salaries of the medium bracket factory and office workers in all branches of the national economy were raised. In 1982 the average monthly wage of factory and office workers went up almost 1.5 times compared to the 1970 figures. Remuneration for collective farmers, since the mid-1970s, grew at still higher rates.

In the 70s minimal pensions were increased for factory, office workers and collective farmers, and the living conditions of the veterans of the Great Patriotic War were improved. Grants for students at university, colleges and of vocational training schools went up. The production of consumer goods increased almost fourfold as compared to the previous decade. The above are just some of the basic results deriving from the implementation of the social programme, concludes the magazine.

SPACE OF HELP TO METALLURGY

Outer space is of help to geologists, seamen, fishermen, meteorologists and firemen. But can it be of help to metallurgy? All the astronaut achievements in sailing,

chemical and physical reactions are linked with "unearthly" conditions. Some substances, for example, which are impossible to mix on earth, are mixed quite easily in weightlessness.

Many experiments have already been carried in the Salyut and Kosmos space stations. In the Salyut station, says Yon Lelapeter, D. Sc. (Engineering), writing in SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIIYA. Plumb-zinc and plumb-aluminum alloys have been synthesized. If the building of space plants still belongs to the future, what about today?

It turns out that under certain conditions there is a chance of obtaining such substances on earth too. The aim is to bring space technology back to earth.

For example, plants designed of the Institute of Physics of the Latvian Academy of Sciences use a magnetic field, ensuring the necessary melting conditions for active treatment of the substances.

To date the ovens are small, but experiments have shown that research is being undertaken in the right direction. New alloys are sought in space while the conditions for obtaining them are imitated on earth.

If it would seem, says Lelapeter, in conclusion, that we are on the verge of a revolution in earth metallurgy, the long time to wait, however, before space plants make their appearance.

CAN NON-INFECTIOUS EPIDEMICS BE COMBATTED?

In the second half of our century, the main danger to health comes from non-infectious diseases such as

cardiac ischemia, heart attacks, high blood pressure, strokes, and cancer, writes ZDOROVYE magazine.

In order to combat these diseases successfully, it is necessary to study the common regularities in their inception.

For instance, to find out to what extent the development of these diseases is caused by factors of the external environment, specialists have employed methods from classical epidemiology, which has given rise to a new discipline. In modern medicine, the epidemiology of non-infectious diseases.

The research, whose results were awarded the State Prize in 1982, began some 20 to 25 years ago. In 1954, expeditions set out for Central Asia, Transcaucasia, Siberia, and the Far East to study for the first time the regional patterns in cancer incidence. Also in these years, specialists in different regions, contrasting climate, geographical location, and other characteristics, concentrated on epidemiological studies. Looking for answers to the question of whether cancer is hereditary, Moscow cancer specialists examined nearly 15,000 relatives of six hundred patients in Moscow alone.

As a result of a five-year observation of a large group of people, they clearly revealed the part played by high blood pressure in the development of the stroke. The implementation of an active programme to combat this disease inevitably leads to a considerable decrease in the incidence of strokes from 57 to 37 per cent compared with the control group.

The new approach to the study of illnesses which plague modern man, has allowed the scientists to study them more thoroughly, to predict the incidence of these diseases, to reveal the factors of risk of their development, and to plan preventive measures.

A LOAD HANDLING ROBOT

The Institute of Railway Transport in Leningrad is sending its newly invented robot to work on the Otkrytiye-Moscow-Leningrad Railway at the station.

Tests have shown that the robot can handle the beet beams handling motor cars.

While a team of six to seven persons takes an entire shift to unload a car, the robot can handle it in about two hours. It can easily lift freight weighing 200 kg.

Leningrad Industrial and Railway authorities plan to build a comprehensive automatic line in all arduous operations. The number of working men in the plant has already reached 500 and by the end of the 1984 period there will be 2,000 of them. A parallel development of the training and retraining of experts at technical colleges is planned in the robot.

3,000 mm rolling mill under construction

The assembly of equipment has begun on the 3,000 mm rolling mill now under construction at the Zhdanov steel plant, in the Ukraine.

The new plant is designed to produce 2.5 million tonnes of iron-resistant, heat-treated sheet steel for large-diameter pipes, annually.

Kirghizian highway made avalanche-proof

The high-altitude Osh-Khorog Highway, in the foothills of the Kyrghiz-Ait Pass, has now been made safe by an anti-avalanche system.

A high-altitude dam, a system of stone-traps and a millimetre gully makes for steady traffic in this important road to Kirghizia.

The heavy mud-slides and avalanches which used to hold up traffic for hours on end on the road, are no longer a danger.

The Osh-Khorog Highway, the main road linking the valleys of Central Asia with the mountainous east of the interior, is being modernized. Two-way traffic has been introduced. In recent years, while construction crews are now working at another two protective gullies,



A helicopter shipping pylons for the power lines which will supply electricity to the new oil and gas fields of Siberia.

SIBERIAN RICHES

Siberia has plentiful resources of oil and gas. Last year a record 500,000 million cu m of gas was extracted there. Five of the Siberian gas plants are located among the largest deposits in the country and the world.

Siberia contains billions of cu m of gas. It is the starting point of major gas pipelines, among them the export Urengoi-Pomary-Uzhgorod pipeline, which will deliver Siberian gas to Western Europe. Already two-thirds of the 4,500 km line have been built.

It will be completed this year and by the beginning of 1984 gas will be provided to West Germany, France, Italy and other countries.

Soviet experts believe that prospecting for oil and gas in Siberia is still in its infancy. To illustrate, in prospecting for deposits in Eastern Siberia located beyond the Yenisei River, only 70 centimetres of prospecting wells have been drilled per each square kilometre. In the Tyumen Region in Western Siberia, which is now responsible for nearly the entire growth in nationwide oil and gas production (last year the first thousand million tonnes of oil were extracted here), there are six metres of wells per square kilometre, or twenty times less than there were in the old Soviet oil regions. The vast expenses of Siberia still hide new and possibly major discoveries.



A drilling crew at the Samoilov oil deposit in Western Siberia.

SUBWAY: 150 KILOMETRES PER HOUR

At a testing range to be built near Moscow subway trains will be able to develop speeds of up to 150 kilometres per hour. As yet the underground expressway have only approached the 100 km/h mark.

The need for the high-speed testing range (the project has just been approved) is explained by the tremendous popularity of the subway with the public and the growing scope of its operations. In Moscow, for instance, the subway carries 7.5 million passengers a day. It has a total length of about 200 kilometres. It is also important for other

METAL FOR THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

The Novolipetsk and Cherepovets metallurgical complexes have started the production of special steel for pipes to be used in the northern regions of the country. The 1,420 millimetre multilayer pipes made of this steel can resist very low temperatures.

According to the USSR Central Statistical Board, this country produced 147 million tonnes of high-quality steel last year. Its annual production will go up to reach 108 million tonnes by the end of the current five-year plan period.

Places to visit

TALLINN'S TOWER

This ancient tower, named Kiek-in-de-Kök ("look into kitchens")—in view of its height it was supposed to see into the kitchens in neighbouring houses, is one of the thirty fortified towers which used to guard with their guns the approaches to Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, from the direction of the Baltic Sea.

The tower was built in 1475 and was a fortification achievement of the time. Ammunition was kept in the lower floor, while the other five floors could accommodate as many as 30 guns. It was one of the most powerful fortresses in the Baltic with walls almost four metres thick and 40 metres high. Only once were the walls breached during combat, and a hole made through which, according to one medieval source,



A two-hill cart could pass. This has now been filled up with six large-diameter stone cannonballs.

Chamber music and folk songs are often performed at the tower which has wonderful acoustics and which has been transformed into a branch of the city museum where Estonian artists and photographers put their works on show.

RECONSTRUCTION JOB ON SUIT OF ARMOUR

Researchers at the History Museum have done an exciting reconstruction job on a suit of armour belonging to one of Dmitry Donskoi's warriors.



Text and photo by Anatoly MIKHAILIN

What's the time, Sun?

One feature of some clock displayed at the Leningrad Museum is that they never functioned, though they faithfully saved people for several centuries. Unlike millions of modern timepieces, the clocks told time by the Sun, Moon, and stars.

Among the items are the earliest antique specimens yet uncovered of Greek items in the history of timekeeping. Next to them is a part of the Egyptian solar clock of the most simple design: the vertical bar—the gnomon—which gave a shadow whose length told the time. In principle, this classical design is still not dated.

Also on display are clocks of various types and designs made in Britain, Germany, Holland, France and Italy back in the 16th-19th centuries, not infrequently by noted scientists, artists and jewellers.

THE SONGS FROM THE MAGTAAL ENSEMBLE

Buryatian musical folklore features on a record released by the firm of Melodia. The music includes traditional ritual and lyrical songs performed by the Magtaal folk ensemble.

OF INTEREST

WELL ACTS AS BAROMETER

The people living in a village called Zogolka in the Lvov Region, Western Ukraine, can always check the weather forecast by observing the behaviour of their well.

Very often, the well warns them about imminent bad weather on a perfectly cloudless day, when a long growing round comes from its depths and the water starts to seethe and grow turbid.

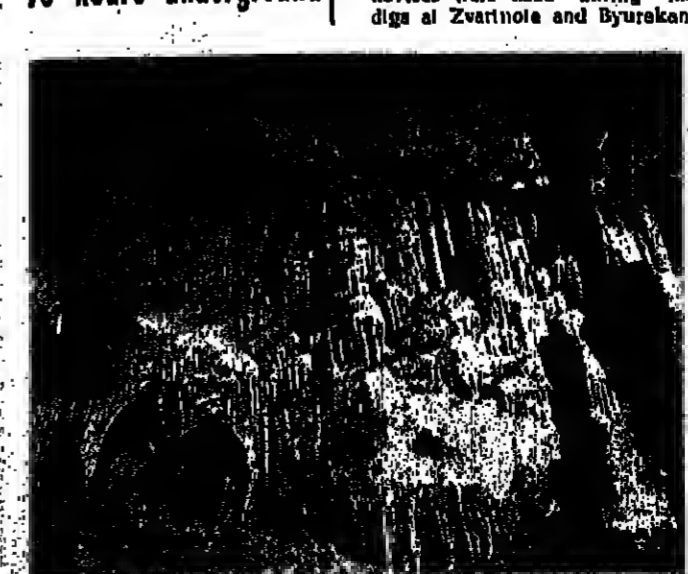
In such cases the old-timers say that the disturbance in the well is an indication that it will soon rain or snow.

Scientists attribute these warnings to phenomena occurring in the lime rock. In good weather, the air and water are drawn into the deep shaft of the well. When the atmospheric pressure abruptly drops, the air escapes noisily, raising the sand and all from the bottom of the well.

A group of speleologists led by the experienced veteran Samuel Khachatryan spent 76 hours in the Archeri cave which lies on a plateau 1,600-1,800 m above sea level. The group, organized and equipped by the Armenian Geographical Society, made a detailed study of the republic's three largest karst caves—Archeri, Monrova and Magla including their measurements. They also compiled an inventory and photographed archaeological finds.

There they found remains of the palaeolithic period, comprising animal bones, rock paintings and the tools of early man. This was what they were looking for. According to the Armenian Geographical Society's vice-president Sogomon Balyan, the results of the expedition to the Archeri, Monrova and Magla caves are of exceptional scientific and educational value.

76 hours underground



VIEWPOINT

HOUSING—A TOP PRIORITY

Oleg ZHAGAR,

Chief of the Housing Department, Board Member of the State Committee for Civil Construction and Architecture at the State Committee of the USSR for Construction, talks to our correspondent.

Q: This country is unsurpassed as far as scale and rate of housing construction are concerned. So what necessitated the recently published Resolution issued by the CPSU Central Committee on measures to improve housing construction?

A: The scale of housing construction in the USSR represents a great social achievement. In the 1970s alone we built more housing than the total area of urban housing in existence in the early 1960s. With every five-year period, more than 50 million people are given better flats: 50.1 million in 1971-1975 and 51.1 million in 1976-1980. At present about 80 per cent of our urban population live in self-contained apartments. Nonetheless, the housing problem remains serious for the following reasons.

The Soviet state inherited a half-destroyed urban housing. We had to overcome the consequences of World War I, of the Civil War, and later — of the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945, when the main completely or partially destroyed and burnt 1,717 big and small towns and over 70 thousand villages.

Huge sums of money as well as material and labour resources were spent on the restoration of housing.

At the 26th CPSU Congress it was noted that housing construction had been undertaken on a wide scale and would continue in the coming years. Over the 11th five-year plan period (1981-1985) it is planned to build 580 million square metres of housing. Since the beginning of the period more than 210 million square metres have already been constructed. About 20 million people improved their housing conditions.

We are now building houses of an improved design and the network of schools, kindergartens, creches and in-end-outlet clinics has been extended. At the same time, the pace for housing and social construction fell short of its targets both in 1981 and in 1982.

The CPSU Central Committee Resolution concentrates on drawing up measures ensuring that the plan is fulfilled.

Our plans have the power of law, not only because they are approved by the highest state organ, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, but also because their execution is the only means of ensuring the smooth operation of our economy taken as a whole. It is stressed in the Resolution that a considerable number of working people are in need of better housing conditions. The need to improve quality of housing construction is emphasized as well as the need for better planned housing and for more expressive architecture not only in the case of separate buildings but also for blocks and whole residential areas.

In 1983, it is intended to commission 166.0 million square metres of housing. The measures outlined in the Resolution have one goal in view—to facilitate the solution of the country's housing construction in 1983 as well as for the whole 11th five-year plan period.

